



The US/South Africa
Health Reporting
Awards

ARE YOU A WINNER?

“To save lives, health programmes must be understood by women, men and children. The media provides an essential link to create this understanding.”

*US Ambassador
Cameron R Hume*

**Public reporting on
any medical matter helps
alleviate the plight of
sufferers of illnesses
of every kind ...**



In South Africa alone:

- **More than four million people are infected with HIV/AIDS;**
- **Some 10 000 cases of Cholera are reported every year;**
- **More than 9 000 people contract Malaria every year; whilst**
- **About 180 000 cases of Tuberculosis are reported every year**

**Only when a plight is known
can action be taken and
solutions sought...**

In pursuit of Excellence in Health Reporting, the Embassy of the United States of America in South Africa is seeking winning journalists, who by the nature of their work are turning the conviction that everyone has a right to life, into *visible action*...

What are the criteria for the Awards?

Entries may address any endemic health issue that is currently facing South Africa. It may also address health systems, health policy, health care management or other related health care issues.

The criteria that will be used to identify excellence in professional journalism are:

- Commitment to informing the people of South Africa
- Integrity and accuracy
- Impact of reporting to result in change
- Journalist's objectivity, critical analysis and rigour in addressing the topic

What are the categories for the Awards?

One winner will be selected in each of these categories:

Print coverage

Best report: circulation fewer than 50 000

Best report: circulation more than 50 000

Best report: Internet-based media outlet

Radio coverage

Commercial/public radio

Best long report or series of short pieces
(3-10 minutes total)

Community radio

Best long report or series of short pieces
(3-10 minutes total)

Television coverage

Best long-form/documentary programme
(5-30 minutes)

Best news report during a regularly scheduled news bulletin

And what are the prizes?

One winner in each of the seven categories will receive a cash prize of R5 000. One overall winner, chosen from the seven category winners, will receive a two-week all expenses paid trip to the United States of America.

The trip will specifically be designed to meet the interests of the winner.

The US Embassy will co-ordinate and arrange the overall winner's trip in co-operation with the Foreign Press Centres. These centres, one each in New York, Washington DC and Los Angeles, assist foreign media with among others, meeting and travel arrangements to pursue stories in the USA.

How will I know whether I am a winner?

The seven category winners will be informed personally and the overall winner will be announced at a banquet in Pretoria in August 2003. Category winners will also receive their prizes at this banquet.

What is the deadline for entries?

Entries should reach the competition secretariat by Friday 20 June 2003.

Entries should be mailed to:

Competition Secretariat
Junxion Communications
PO Box 14176, Hatfield 0028

Or delivered to:

Suite 312, Infotech Building, 1090 Arcadia Street,
Hatfield, Pretoria

Enquiries:

Martin van Niekerk
012 342 0456
junxion@iafrica.com

What are the rules?

1. Only South African citizens who are practising journalists working for South African media may enter.
2. Only one submission per entrant will be accepted.
3. Material submitted must have been produced between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003.
4. Standardised criteria will apply within each category.
5. The judges' decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.
6. Submitted material will not be returned.
7. All submissions must include a statement (not more than 250 words) on how this report advances the understanding of the particular health issue in South Africa and the impact it had on health and health education. This statement must be in English.
8. Submissions in any official South African language other than English are highly encouraged. However, transcripts/translations in English must accompany such entries.
9. Submissions that do not meet all the requirements will be considered unsuccessful and entrants will be notified in writing.





“We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibres connect us with our fellow men; and among those fibres, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects.”

Anonymous